

Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Answers to Question on Notice

Communications Portfolio

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Topic: Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (2021 Measures No. 1) Bill 2021

Hansard Ref: Page 47, 7/6/2021

Senator URQUHART asked

Senator URQUHART: Has the department evaluated the cadetships that were announced in 2017? Mr Makin: We have done some work looking at that, but nothing that we've published at this stage. Senator URQUHART: Right. When did you do that evaluation? Mr Makin: I couldn't give you an exact timing on that. I know that the final reports for some of those cadets, I think, have only recently come in. That program has taken a long time for delivery. Senator URQUHART: You said you had done some evaluation. What does that show? What does it say? Mr Makin: I haven't got anything that I could comment on in front of me. I could take that on notice and see what we've got. Senator URQUHART: Okay. Can you tell me where the cadets are now? Mr Makin: Again, I'd have to take that on notice, I'm sorry. I haven't got notes on the cadetship program with me today. Senator URQUHART: Okay. I'll just stop there and let someone else have a go. I might come back to a couple if we've got time.

Answer:

The Department undertook an interim evaluation of the Regional and Small Publishers Cadetship Program in October 2020 and is planning to evaluate the whole Regional and Small Publishers Jobs and Innovation Package of programs later in 2021.

The interim evaluation found that a total of 41 employees completed their cadetships under the program by the end of September 2020. 29 of these cadets were employed by a regional publisher and the other 12 cadets were employed by small metropolitan publishers.

Following the conclusion of their cadetships, 31 cadets were reported as having ongoing employment with their publisher.

Of the 10 cadets that left their employers, the majority did so to pursue alternate paths of career or study.